

US Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) - Direct Access		
Implementing Agency	The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) of the U.S. Department of State	The Bureau of Consular Affairs of the U.S. Department of State
Agency Accepting Applications:	The International Organization for Migration (IOM), an overseas contractor of the U.S. Department of State (IC@iom.int)	The National Visa Center, a contractor of the Bureau of Consular Affairs (IraqSIVapplication@state.gov)
Adjudicating Agency:	Department of Homeland Security/ US Citizenship and Immigration Service (DHS/USCIS)	U.S. Embassy Baghdad and U.S. Department of State/ Bureau of Consular Affairs, and Department of Homeland Security/the U.S Citizenship and Immigration Service (DHS/USCIS)
Who Can File:	USG/MNF-I translators; USG direct hires and contractors (including those employed by grants or cooperative agreements); employees of US-based media/non-gov't organizations employed after March 20, 2003, regardless of length of employment; relatives of American citizens and certain legal permanent residents	Any Iraqi national who provides/provided "faithful and valuable" service to the USG while employed by or on behalf of the USG for at least one year after March 20, 2003 (excluding those employed by grants and cooperative agreements)
Access to the Program for Qualifying Family Members:	Spouse; children (any age, any marital status) and their immediate family; parents; siblings and their immediate family	Spouse and minor unmarried children
Persecution Claim:	Must demonstrate persecution or fear of persecution as a result of U.S. Government affiliation or other protected characteristics	Must show risk or have experienced a serious ongoing threat as a result of U.S. Government affiliation
Required Forms to Initiate Application:	No required forms - only verifiable proof of employment	Employment verification letter, letter of recommendation from American supervisor, statement of threat, DS-157
Document Required for US Travel:	Valid Iraqi passport	Valid Iraqi passport
Quota:	There is no annual "cap" for Iraqi refugees	5,000 principal applicant visas per year for Fiscal Year 2008 through 2012 (cap does not apply to immediate family members)
Legal Status Granted:	After 12 months of residency, refugees are required to apply for adjustment of status to that of Permanent Resident Alien. After five years in the United States, refugees may apply for citizenship.	Beneficiaries are Legal Permanent Residents upon entry to U.S. After five years in the United States, may apply for citizenship.
Travel Docs Issued:	Refugees are issued special refugee travel documents; DHS permission required for international travel during the first year	Beneficiaries are issued an immigrant visa valid for 3 months in passport. "Green Cards" are issued once residency is established in the U.S.
Benefits:	Refugees automatically receive State Department benefits and may qualify for other benefits through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) upon arrival in the U.S.	Beneficiaries may elect to receive State Department benefits but <i>must do so while still overseas</i> ; beneficiaries may be eligible for other benefits through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) upon arrival in the U.S. regardless of whether or not they chose to receive State Department benefits
Travel Date:	Travel is booked by IOM	Beneficiaries can travel any time before the expiration of their visa if not electing to receive benefits; otherwise booked by IOM